

**TRANSITION REPORT
ISSUE ANALYSIS**

TITLE	Foreign Fuel
ISSUE	<p>In the 1950s, as part of the "Atoms for Peace" program, the United States (U.S.) provided assistance in the peaceful application of nuclear technologies to various countries that had agreed not to develop nuclear weapons. These countries further agreed to return the irradiated fuel to the U.S. to reduce the danger of nuclear weapons proliferation.</p> <p>The U.S. Secretary of Energy recently decided to ship Foreign Research Reactor Spent Nuclear Fuel (FRRSNF) from Asian countries via the Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) through California to the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) in Idaho for temporary storage.</p> <p>In the summer of 1998, Department of Energy (DOE) will begin a prolonged campaign to ship approximately 1 metric ton of FRRSNF via California</p> <p>The Governor does not agree with DOE's choice of port entry and has directed the designated state agencies to participate in contingency planning.</p> <p>OES is responsible for coordinating the preparedness (mitigation, planning, training, exercises, response, and recovery) activities with federal, state, and local governments.</p>
STATUS AS OF 1991	<p>The focus of the foreign fuel planning was mainly on rail transportation. Little work was done to address shipments by highway.</p>
1991-1998 SUMMARY	<p>OES has coordinated and assisted in the training of over 1,200 state and local emergency responders, conducted tabletop exercises in 15 counties along the route, provided radiological instruments and trained responders in its use along the primary and alternate route, and developed an emergency response plan for state response to assist local emergency response agencies.</p>
CURRENT SITUATION	<p>OES has completed a working draft of the California Foreign Spent Nuclear Fuel Transport Plan. OES continues to</p>

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participate with the Department of Energy (DOE) in preparing for future shipments of foreign fuel via the Concord Naval Weapons Station through California to the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory in Idaho for temporary storage.

OES is also Participating with the DOE preparing for the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP) Transuranic (high-level radioactive waste) shipments by highway via DOE facilities in California to Carlsbad New Mexico for storage.

OES CURRENT ACTIVITIES

OES is currently involved coordinating with DOE, state, and local emergency response agencies preparing for the next 3 to 4 shipments of foreign fuel from foreign countries via Concord Naval Weapons Station through California to Idaho for temporary storage. OES is also currently involved coordinating WIPP preparedness activities with the Western Governors Association (WGA) and DOE.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

A major concern with DOE and other federal agencies is coordinating preparedness activities using SEMS.
